The Municipal Gazette.

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MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION.

No. 2089.

REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGE.

THE Council and the French Council invite tenders for the construction of a reinforced concrete arched bridge over the Yangkingpang, at the Bund, in replacement of the existing steel structure.

Plans, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained upon application at the Public Works Office, Hankow Road, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

A charge of Tls. 25 will be made for the specification and drawings, which will be returned on receipt of a bonâ fide tender.

Only tenders from contractors who have had experience in reinforced concrete construction will be considered.

Sealed tenders will be received at the Municipal Offices, Kiangse Road, not later than noon on Saturday, March 4, 1911, and should be marked "Tender for Bund Bridge."

The Councils do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, or to refund any expenses incurred in tendering.

The names of tenderers with the prices quoted will be published for general information.

Conseil d'Administration Municipale de la Concession Francaise,
Le Secrétaire
G. LAFERRIERE.

For the Council for the Foreign Community.
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

Shanghai, February 10, 1911.

AT the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, February 8, 1911, at 4.30 p.m., there are present:

Messrs. D. Landale (*Chairman*)
H. De Gray
H. Figge
H. A. J. Macray
C. Selby Moore
W. A. C. Platt
T. E. Trueman
The Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

The summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The minutes of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Resignation of Member.

The resignation of Mr. H. J. Craig is recorded with regret.

Visit of the German Crown Prince.

From a letter from the Consul-General for Germany the Council learns with sincere regret that the tour of H.I. and R.H. to China and Japan has been abandoned :—

Shanghai, February 2, 1911.

SIR,—With reference to my letter of January 9, I have the honour to inform you that, according to a telegram from the Imperial German Legation at Peking, His Imperial and Royal Highness, the German Crown Prince and of Prussia has abandoned his tour to China and Japan, and will therefore be unable to accept the Council's kind invitation for April 1.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express you, in my own name as well as in the name of the German community of Shanghai, our sincerest thanks for the assistance the Council has given to us in preparing a dignified reception of His Imperial and Royal Highness in Shanghai.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
P. VON BUBI,
Consul-General for Germany.

D. LANDALE, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Court of Foreign Consuls.

A communication from the Consular Body informs the Council of the election of the representatives of Norway, Germany and Italy, to constitute the Court for 1911, in accordance with the provisions of Article XXVII of the Land Regulations.

Volunteers.

Annual Training and Inspection.—A letter from the Commandant notifies the Council of the dates proposed for the Annual Training of the Corps, viz., from March 6 for Mounted and March 18 for Dismounted Units to Saturday, April 22. In confirming these arrangements it is decided to request the General Officer Commanding H.M. Forces in South China to hold the usual Inspection on the last named date.

Police.

Foreign Branch.—Sergeant Robinson is reduced to the rank of 2nd Class Sergeant with effect from December 8.

The resignation of Constable W. Smith is accepted with effect from February 7.

The service of Constable A. V. Stewart terminated on February 6, the date of expiry of his agreement.

Constables G. Emmett and E. Prior are dismissed the Force with effect from January 26 for misconduct.

Probationary Constable C. R. Thompson is dismissed the Force with effect from February 4 for continued misconduct.

Nine months' leave of absence is granted to Constable T. Aiers with effect from March 12, upon expiry of which his service will terminate.

Nine months' leave of absence is granted to Sergeants McSwiney and Lavelle with effect respectively from April 25 and May 4.

Inspector Matheson.—The retirement of Inspector Matheson from the Force is authorized with effect from March 30. This Inspector joined the Force in 1884, attained the rank of Sergeant in 1887. and was promoted to be Inspector in 1896. During his 26 years' continuous service he has borne an exemplary character.

In view of the fact that the Superannuation Fund has only been in operation during the past 8 years, it is decided to issue to him the whole of the sum standing to his credit in the Fund, with an added gratuity to bring the amount payable up to Tls. 10,000.

Case of Attempted Arrest.—A letter from Messrs. Drummond, White-Cooper and Phillips is read with regard to the alleged improper action of a Foreign Constable while executing a warrant for the arrest of one Li Hou She. From the Police Report on the case it appears to the members that the Constable's action was unquestionably wrong, and it is decided, in expressing the Council's regret for the occurrence, to inform Messrs. Drummond that the man concerned has, since the incident, been dismissed from the Force for misconduct.

Traffic Islands.—Attention having been drawn to the fact that two accidents have taken place at the corner of the Nanking and Kiangse Roads, due to the failure of the electric light at this point, it appears that this particular island is regarded by certain members of the Council as an undesirable obstruction rather than as a help to traffic. A Police Report on the subject points out that although the presence of the island may add slightly to the difficulty of driving a motor-car round the corner, it is on the other hand of very considerable assistance to the Police on point duty regulating traffic. The consideration of certain drivers of vehicles towards Police pointsmen is frequently conspicuous by its absence, and the presence of the island gives the Traffic Constable all the assistance necessary to control the cross traffic, besides aiding foot passengers to cross.

After some discussion, the recommendation of the Captain-Superintendent is adopted that no further action be taken in this matter until the widening consequent upon the re-building of the shop at the corner of Lot 84 is completed.

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Harbin Road Sub-Station.—The following letters contain an arrangement with the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld. for the provision of a wing extension at this Station to admit of a new kitchen and pantry :—

Shanghai, January 21, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—In reference to the proposed alterations to the Harbin Road Police Station as shewn on the plans handed to us last year we have no objection to the alteration being carried out at once. As the work proposed practically amounts to an extension of the existing building we propose the following as probably the most equitable method of dealing with the matter :—The work to be carried out by the Municipal Council and to be paid for by ourselves, and the rent of the premises to be increased by an amount equal to 8 per cent per annum on the actual cost of the work.

I regret that this matter has, through an oversight in this office, been so long delayed.

Yours faithfully,
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld.,
PHILIP PEEBLES,
Manager.

C. H. GODFREY, Esq.,
Municipal Engineer.

Council Room,
Shanghai, February 10, 1911.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 21, addressed to the Municipal Engineer, on the subject of the proposed extension to the Harbin Road Police Sub-Station, and, in reply, to state that the Council assents to your suggestion that the work be carried out by the Public Works Department at the expense of your Company, the annual rental being increased by a sum equivalent to 8 per cent on the expenditure involved, which is estimated to be Tls. 1,500.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

P. PEEBLES, Esq.,
Manager,
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ld.

Plague Prevention Conference.

In response to a letter from the Senior Consul, inviting representatives of the Council to attend a Conference to be held on February 6 for the discussion of measures for the prevention of the introduction of Plague into Shanghai, and in accordance with the Council's wishes, the Chairman attended the Conference accompanied by the Health Officer :—

Shanghai, February 1, 1911.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that, at a meeting of the Consular Body held yesterday, it was decided that a conference should be held for the purpose of discussing what further measures ought to be taken for the prevention of the introduction of plague into this port, and the Consuls-General for Germany, Japan, and Great Britain were appointed to represent the Consular Body at the conference, to which it was decided to invite representatives from the Shanghai Taotai of Customs, from the Commissioner of Customs, from the Council for the Foreign Community of Shanghai, from the French Municipal Council and from the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

I have been instructed to inform you that a meeting will be held at the German Consulate-General on Monday, February 6, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and also to ask you to send a representative or representatives to the meeting.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
THORVALD HANSEN,
Consul-General for Norway, and Senior Consul.

D. LANDALE, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Mr. Landale recounts the proceedings at the meeting, and states that a summary of the preventive measures in force in the Settlement will be compiled by the Health Officer and forwarded to the Chairman of the Conference, for transmission, through the Consular Body, to the Taotai, with a view to similar precautionary efforts in the Native City and elsewhere beyond the Settlement Boundary.

With regard to co-operation between the Municipal and River Police in the supervision of the arrangements for ships at the wharfside, Mr. Landale informed the Conference that the Police could do no more than report breaches of the orders to be observed.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

In accordance with the resolution passed by the Consular Body at its last meeting on January 31 the following representatives have met at the German Consulate-General this 6th day of February, 1911, to discuss the necessity of further preventative measures against plague :

For the Consular Body:
Mr. von Buri, Consul-General for Germany.
Mr. A. Ariyoshi, Consul-General for Japan.
Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, H.B.M. Consul-General.

For the Taotai:
Mr. Kuan Chun
Mr. Shao Gin-tow, Vice-President, Chinese Chamber of Commerce.
Mr. Shen Tun-ho, Director, Chinese Public Hospital.

For the Imperial Maritime Customs:
Mr. H. F. Merrill, Commissioner.
Mr. W. Carlson, Harbourmaster.

For the Municipal Council:
Mr. D. Landale, Chairman.
Dr. A. Stanley, Health Officer.

For the French Settlement:
Mr. M. Dejean de la Batie.

For the Chamber of Commerce:
Mr. J. N. Jameson.
Mr. E. F. Mackay.

The Committee having elected Mr. von Buri as Chairman and the German Vice-Consul, Baron von Hahn, as Secretary, Mr. Merrill explains the anti-plague measures taken already by the Port Authorities. Referring to his letter of January 27, addressed to the Senior Consul on this matter, he proposes to extend the quarantine period from six to seven days and finds in this the unanimous consent of the Committee.

Concerning the measures to be taken for the more effective prevention against the introduction of rats the opinion is expressed by several members of the Committee, that the new regulations drawn up for this purpose in the said letter would be unnecessarily hard. Mr. Merrill then lays before the Conference a new scheme of regulations framed by the Harbourmaster, the main features of which are the following :—Ships coming from infected ports, after having undergone quarantine at Woosung, are allowed to go at Shanghai alongside the wharf and to discharge here during daylight, provided that they have been fumigated once every trip between leaving Shanghai and calling here again ; at night fall, however, they have to remove from the pier to some distance, so as to prevent rats coming ashore; rat-guards of uniform type must be employed at the ropes and chains connecting these ships with the pier : cargo and packings susceptible of concealing rats have to be examined accordingly. The Conference agrees to these views, and a draft of regulations based upon them will be sent by the Commissioner of Customs to the Senior Consul to be approved by the Consular Body.

Mr. Landale for the Municipal Council and Mr. Dejean de la Batie for the French Settlement promise to give directions to the respective police officials to assist the Harbour Authorities in carrying out the intended measures by reporting cases of contravention.

Mr. Carlson then proceeds to show to the Conference a pattern of a new rat-guard, and this is adopted by the Committee for the obligatory use of ships coming from plague-infected ports.

A discussion follows about the treatment of the mails arriving here on board of steamers which come from plague-infected ports. The proposal of Mr. von Buri, that the whole mail immediately after leaving the ship and before being distributed to the different post offices should be thoroughly disinfected by the Health Office, is rejected, the opinion being prevalent to leave these measures to the respective postal authorities. Moreover, Dr. Stanley expresses the opinion that danger of infection could scarcely arise out of the condition of the mails as they arrive here at present.

At the request of Mr. von Buri Dr. Stanley explains the sanitary work done till now by the Health Department in coping with the plague (cleaning of streets and houses, removal of refuse, rat-catching, proclamations for the instruction of the Chinese public), which

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measures are judged by the Conference to be sufficient for the time being. Dr. Stanley specially reports about a kind of rat proof, which could be built at an expense of not exceeding Tls. 20 in every new or already existing house and which would be an effective check against the intrusion of rats. Mr. Landale declares that it is the intention of the Municipal Council to lay this subject as a general prevention-measure before the next Ratepayers' Meeting.

Mr. Landale asks if there are any precautionary measures taken by the Taotai for the Chapei District and likewise for the Chinese City and its suburbs. Mr. Kuan Chun answers that nothing has been done so far, but that the Taotai will doubtless follow the example given by the Foreign Community and that he will do his best. Thereupon the Committee decides that a Memorandum containing the facts of sanitary work done by the Health Department in connexion with prevention of plague shall be provided by Dr. Stanley. This document will then be submitted by the Chairman of this Conference to the Senior Consul to be communicated by him to the Taotai, with the request to take if not the same at least similarly effective measures in the Chapei District, the Chinese City and its suburbs. In conformity with a suggestion made by Mr. Shen Tun-ho and supported by Mr. Dejean de la Batie, this Conference is particularly of the opinion that a special Isolation Hospital with accommodation for cases of plague ought to be erected as soon as possible for the needs of the Chinese settlements south of the French Settlement.

The Chairman then is granted authority to directly convey the resolutions passed to the Senior Consul and to convene a new meeting when considered necessary.

No further suggestions coming forward the meeting is closed.

Shanghai, February 6, 1911.

The Secretary,

BARON VON HAHN,
German Vice Consul.

The Chairman,

PAUL VON BURI,
Consul-General for Germany.

MEMORANDUM.

The following is a summary of the plague prevention measures put into operation within the Settlement:—

Public Measures.

1.—Plague survey by enquiry into the cause of human deaths and by collection of rats found dead, throughout the Settlement for examination in the Laboratory in order to locate plague infection.

2.— Careful daily collection and disposal of house refuse from every house, and storage of house refuse in rat-proof receptacles so as to deprive rats of means of sustenance.

3.—Rat-proofing of houses.

(*a*) Temporary, by service of notice on occupiers asking for co-operation in cleansing, pulicidal disinfection, demurization and rat-proofing by minor repairs such as sealing rat holes and rat runs by cement or tin plate, the furniture of the house being removed to permit of thorough examination.

(*b*) Permanent, by service of notice on owners requiring solid ground floors, removal of ceilings, hollow partitions and stair linings so as to deprive rats of accommodation.

4.—Preventive inoculation with plague vaccine beginning with the sanitary staff.

5.—Rat destruction, by trapping and poison, in infected areas beginning at the periphery and working towards the centre.

Individual Measures.

(Recommended by published notices and by extensive distribution of handbills.)

No rats. No plague.

A house that is rat-proof is plague-proof.

1.—Keep cats.

2.—Rid your house from rats also by trapping and poisoning.

3.—Make your house as rat-proof as possible.

4.—Provide no food for rats. Keep all food in places inaccessible to rats. Grain and such like food for ponies, fowls, etc., should be kept in covered galvanised iron receptacles. See that your servants keep their rice bags where rats cannot get. Keep house refuse in properly covered galvanised iron receptacles and see that they are covered, especially at night. Keep the kitchen and its surroundings very clean; let no refuse lie about.

5.—See that the gratings into the space below the ground floor keep out rats, and that the brickwork of the basement is impervious to rats. If rats gain access through windows or other openings on the ground floor keep them out by screening with wire netting.

6.—See that all openings into covered drains are kept in good repair to prevent egress of sewer rats. Carefully inspect all corners of the house from top to bottom once weekly, moving furniture where necessary. Do the same in the stable, fowl house and other outhouses. Arrange for the plastering up of rat-holes or any place that may afford ingress to rats or mice.

7.—All rats trapped or poisoned should be burnt; other rats found dead in or about the house should not be touched with the hands but should be picked up with tongs, put into Jeyes' fluid and water (1 in 20) and sent to the Health Officer for examination for Plague.

8.—Get vaccinated against Plague if exposed to infection.

9.—If you have any difficulty in carrying out the above measures communicate with the Health Officer in writing.

The above are the special measures put into operation within the Settlement against Plague. In addition such general methods of prevention applicable to all dangerous infectious diseases, as are possible under local conditions, such as notification, isolation and disinfection can be put into operation against human cases of Plague as they arise. Not only is the Municipal Isolation Hospital available but an arrangement has been made with the recently instituted Chinese Public Isolation Hospital under native management whereby their foreign-trained Chinese doctors will examine and isolate Chinese cases of Plague.

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

Plague Prevention.

Chinese Building Rules.—The proposed amendments of these Rules to effect exclusion of rats from native dwellings, which were submitted to a Special Committee of land-owners and property agents, are set forth on pages 157 et seq. of the Annual Report for 1909. The modifications suggested by the Committee were considered of such a nature as to warrant postponement of the matter to a more favourable opportunity.

The subject has recently received further attention at the hands of the Watch Committee, the Health Officer having compiled modified amendments of Rules Nos. VIII and XVIII, and it is now decided to publish the text of the various re-drafts, with a view to the general discussion of the matter before the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers.

Rules with respect to buildings erected in the Settlement may be made by the Council from time to time under provision of Article XXX of the Land Regulations, subject only to their submission for the opinion of the Land Commissioners and to adequate notice. In the present instance, however, in view of the diversity of opinion on certain essential points, the Council is not prepared to authorize the changes recommended until definite public sanction has been given thereto.

Proposed Amendment of the Chinese Building Rules with the object of securing rat-proof houses for the purpose of preventing Plague, by incorporating recommendations of the Special Committee of Land-owners and Property Agents appointed in 1909, and clauses from the Hongkong Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

FROM PRESENT CHINESE BUILDING RULES.

VIII.

The surface of the ground on all sites on which it is proposed to erect a building shall be raised at least three inches above the finished level of the back of the footpath or where there is no existing footpath to three inches above the crown of the nearest road.

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The ground floor level of every building shall lie at least twelve inches above the finished level of the back of the footpath or the crown of the road as the case may be.

The ground surface of every building shall be covered with good lime or cement concrete at least six inches thick and finished off smooth, the upper surface of the concrete may be at the level specified in the first clause for the surface of the ground.

XVIII. Para. 3.

Every room which has a boarded floor situate on the lowest story shall have a clear space of at least four inches in every part between the underside of every joist on which such floor may be laid and the top of the concrete and such space shall be thoroughly ventilated by means of suitable air bricks or other effectual method, or the floor may be laid on lime or cement concrete so that there be no open space below the floor.

RECOMMENDED BY SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

VIII.

The surface of the ground of all sites on which it is proposed to erect a building shall be raised to the finished level of the back of the footpath, or where there is no existing footpath, the level of the crown of the nearest finished road.

The ground floor level of every building shall lie at least six inches above the finished level of the back of the footpath, or the crown of the road as the case may be.

The boarded floor of every room on the lower story shall be laid on a bed of well-rammed tar concrete at least three inches in thickness to consist of one of the following mixtures, viz.:—

(a) Quarter inch stone chippings well mixed with twenty-five gallons of hot tar per fong of area three inches in thickness.

(b) Broken bricks to pass through a one-half ring and cinders in equal parts by measurement well mixed with fifty gallons of hot tar per fong of area three inches in thickness.

(c) Cinders mixed with forty gallons of hot tar per fong of area three inches in thickness.

The whole to be laid upon three inches of good lime concrete so that there shall be no space between the floor boards and the tar concrete.

XVIII.

In the event of the adoption of the above recommendations, paragraph three of this article should be deleted.

IN HONGKONG PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE.

108.—No lath and plaster wall or other hollow wall shall be hereafter constructed in any building outside the European Reservation or any Hill District, except with the permission of the Building Authority as signified by approval of the plan required under the provisions of this Ordinance.

120.—The floors of all domestic buildings hereafter erected outside the European Reservation or the Hill District shall unless specially exempted by the Building Authority, have skirtings of cement, at least twelve inches in height and of a thickness of not less than one inch, or of other impervious material approved by the Building Authority.

121.—Para. 2.—After the third day of July 1908 no staircase thereafter erected shall be constructed with a soffit so as to form any enclosed space between the treads the risers and such soffit in any building outside the European Reservation or the Hill District, except with the permission of the Building Authority as signified by the approval of the plan required under the provisions of this Ordinance.

122.—No ceiling shall hereafter be erected in any building outside the European Reservation or the Hill District except with the permission of the Building Authority as signified by the approval of the plan required under the provisions of this Ordinance.

NOW PROPOSED.

The surface of the ground of all sites on which it is proposed to erect a building shall be raised to the finished level of the back of the footpath, or where there is no existing footpath, to the level of the crown of the nearest finished road.

The ground floor level of every building shall lie at least six inches above the finished level of the back of the footpath or the crown of the road as the case may be.

The ground floor of every building shall be solid and consist of good cement concrete, stone or other material approved by the Surveyor at least six inches thick and impervious to rats and water or may be a boarded floor laid, so that no space intervenes, on a bed of well-rammed tar concrete, impervious to rats and water, at least three inches thick lying on a bed of good lime or cement concrete at least three inches thick or the bed on which the boarded floor lies may be made of other materials impervious to rats and water approved by the Surveyor.

No lath and plaster hollow wall or partition shall be constructed in any building.

No staircase shall be constructed with a soffit so as to form any enclosed space between the treads the risers and such soffit.

No ceiling shall be erected in any building so as to enclose a hollow space below the first floor.

The last four paragraphs are formulated with the object of diminishing rats in houses as a preventive against plague and this object should be kept constantly in view in building construction so as to avoid places for rats.

Rule XVIII, para. 3, to be deleted.

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

Shanghai, December 20, 1910.

Council Room,
Shanghai, January 9, 1911.

SIR,—I am directed to hand you, herein enclosed, a copy of certain amendments of Articles VIII and XVIII of the Chinese Building Rules drawn up by the Health Officer with the object of securing rat-proof houses for the purpose of preventing plague.

These Articles as at present in operation, and as now proposed by the Health Officer, have been printed in convenient form together with the recommendations of the Special Committee of 1909, of which you were a member, and an extract from the Hongkong Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

Before taking any further step in the matter, the Council will be glad to have an expression of your opinion on the suggested revision.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

This letter was addressed to each member of the Special Committee.

Shanghai, January 14, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter dated January 9 last addressed to the individual members of a Committee appointed in February 1909 to consider suggested amendments of the Building Bye-Laws for Chinese houses, in which you enclose a printed paper setting out:—

(a) Rule 8 and paragraph 3 of rule 18 of the existing Bye-Laws.

(b) The amendments thereto suggested by ourselves sitting as a special Committee.

(c) Extract from Hongkong Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

(d) The amendments now proposed by the officer of Public Health and inviting our criticism thereon.

We have to inform you that we thought it advisable to discuss these proposed amendments in Committee and for this purpose a Meeting was held on Wednesday evening the 11th inst. when the following decisions were arrived at:—

(1) That any comparison between the Bye-laws in force at Hongkong and those proposed for Shanghai is, considering the fundamental difference between Chinese houses in Hongkong and Shanghai, quite useless. But if such comparison is to be made we would point out that hollow lath and plaster walls, stair soffits, and ceilings are not entirely prohibited under the Hongkong ordinances as it is now proposed to prohibit them in Shanghai.

(2) In respect to the hollow space under boarded floors in Chinese houses.

This matter was considered very thoroughly by the Committee, many experiments with tar concrete were made both by the late Municipal Engineer and by members of the Committee, floors were laid with tar concrete and

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the Engineer and Health Officer inspected these floors with the Committee and expressed themselves thoroughly satisfied that the floors so laid were sanitary and efficiently rat-proof.

The Committee's suggestion for the amendment of Bye-Law VIII was then drafted and approved of by the Council's officers and we see no good reason why the Bye-Law as then drafted should be replaced by that now suggested which is much less definite and easier to evade.

(3) Lath and plaster hollow walls are only used in the better class of Chinese houses and only in cases where they are essential and we consider that so long as hollow lath and plaster walls are allowed in foreign houses they should not be prohibited in Chinese houses.

(4) Stair Soffits.—This matter was also fully considered by the Committee and it was then explained to the Health Officer that each soffit made by the riser and tread of a stair constituted a separate box from which if a rat obtained access it would be easy to extricate it and that the soffit could not in any case be considered a rat run. The objection to the soffit appears to us to be too trivial to warrant the prohibition of what is undoubtedly appreciated by Chinese tenants.

(5) Ceiling.—We are strongly of opinion that ceilings should be permitted to the ground floor of all Chinese houses. The comfort of Chinese residents must be, to a certain extent, considered. An unceiled house must always be cold and comfortless and we are of opinion that a ceiled house is more sanitary than an unceiled one. In the absence of a ceiling there is nothing to prevent dirt and germs falling through the floor of the upper room and on to food below. It is our well considered opinion that the better class of Chinese will refuse to live in an unceiled house. In this connexion we would mention that the Public Health Department has in several cases recently compelled landlords to ceil the ground floor of shops previously unceiled.

(6) In conclusion we would point out that when these matters were before our Committee we were informed that the most important point for consideration was the hollow space under the floors and second to that was the necessity of rat-proofing the roof.

It is therefore with some surprise that we note that the latter has been entirely omitted from the amendments now proposed although a roof to meet the Health Officer's views was approved by our Committee.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY LESTER.
GILBERT DAVIES.
ARTHUR DALLAS.
J. AMBROSE.
PHILIP PEEBLES.

W. E. LEVESON, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Report by the Health Officer on the letter of the Special Committee of January 14, referring to the proposed amendment of the Chinese Building Rules for excluding rats from houses.

The following decisions of the Special Committee, taken seriatim, are open to objection from a sanitary point of view:—

1.—"That any comparison between the Bye-laws in force at Hongkong and those proposed in Shanghai is, considering the fundamental difference between Chinese houses in Hongkong and Shanghai, quite useless."

The essential thing aimed at is the exclusion of rats from dwellings by doing away with places for rats. Both in Hongkong and Shanghai the places providing homes for rats in houses are the hollow spaces below the ground floor, above ceilings and in lath and plaster and other hollow construction. There is no essential difference in these respects either between Hongkong and Shanghai Chinese houses or between Chinese and foreign houses.

3.—"We consider that so long as lath and plaster walls are allowed in foreign houses they should not be prohibited in Chinese houses."

The reason for not prohibiting in foreign houses is that foreigners are much less liable to Plague.

4.—"It was then explained to the Health Officer that each soffit made by the riser and tread of a stair constituted a separate box from which if a rat obtained access it would be easy to extricate it and that the soffit could not in any case be considered a rat run."

It is not rat runs but places where rats can live unmolested that we want to deal with. It is obvious to anyone that when the back of a staircase is closed in, each stair constitutes a hollow space where rats may live unmolested and which could not be extricated without removing the unnecessary addition which forms the enclosed space, the erection of which it is proposed to prohibit.

5.—"An unceiled house must always be cold and comfortless and we are of opinion that a ceiled house is more sanitary than an unceiled one. In the absence of a ceiling there is nothing to prevent dirt and germs falling through the floor of the upper room and on the floor below."

The removal of the ceiling below the first floor, as recommended, would not render a house colder. It would be a very easy matter to prevent dirt falling through by nailing thin boards over the cracks in the floor or better still to use proper tongued and grooved floor boards, which though costing more to lay down, would last longer and cost less for repairs.

6.—"In this connexion we would mention that the Public Health Department has in several cases recently compelled landlords to ceil the ground floor of shops previously unceiled."

I have been unable to discover any foundation for this statement.

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

Victoria Nursing Home.

Staff.—Upon the recommendation of the Health Officer it is decided to appoint Nurse Summerskill on 3 months' probation to be Housekeeper at the Home.

The transfer of Police Constable Macdonald to act as attendant in the Mental Ward is authorized.

Municipal Properties.

Wayside Park.—Purchase is authorized of a small piece of unregistered land required to complete the Wayside Park site, at the rate of Tls. 1,000 per mow, or a sum of Tls. 60 for an area of Mow 0.06.

Road Extensions and Widenings.

Hanbury and Miller Roads.—Acceptance is authorized of the offer of the Rev. H. P. Shaw, on behalf of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, to surrender a piece of land ex Cadastral Lot 1072, required for the improvement of the corner of these roads, at the assessed value, or a sum of Tls. 30 for an area of Mow 0.003. The land in question has been in public use for the past 13 years.

Whashing Road.—Letter from Messrs. Drummond, White-Cooper and Phillips in regard to the unsatisfactory condition of this road, with reply as directed, is ordered for publication:—

Shanghai, January 20, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—We are requested by the Heng Feng Cotton Manufacturing Company to write in respect of the condition of the Whashing Road. Some few years back the road was purchased by the Council chiefly in order to have public access to a wharf which is adjacent. Two years ago the Company requested the Council to keep the road in reasonable repair, but were informed that it would require an outlay of Tls 4,000 of which the Company were required to contribute one half. Since the purchase of the road was effected, it has been absolutely neglected; nothing in the way of repair has been done, the drains are in an unsanitary condition and in wet weather the road is almost impassable. Besides the Mill, there are some twenty families living on the road, and hundreds of persons daily use it, chiefly women and children, who incur some danger as pedestrians in the night and early morning.

The Company pays Tls. 1,380 in rates per annum and has paid this or an approximate amount for many years past, so are certainly entitled to some consideration. They say that the road would not have got into its present condition if it had remained in their hands.

On behalf of our clients and the public who use the road, we should be glad if the Council gave orders for repair, and that the sanitary condition should be attended to.

Yours faithfully,

DRUMMOND, WHITE-COOPER & PHILLIPS.

W. E. LEVESON, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

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Council Room,
Shanghai, February 13, 1911.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 20, conveying the request of the Heng Foong Cotton Manufacturing Company for an improvement in the condition of the Whashing Road.

In reply thereto, I am directed to state that as a result of similar applications, the question of making up and metalling this road was under consideration in 1905-6 and again in 1908, but, owing to the refusal of the adjoining owners to contribute towards the cost, the matter was left in abeyance.

The Council is, however, of opinion that the time has now arrived when, in the public interest, this section of the Whashing Road should be constructed, and I have therefore to state that, in accordance with your request, metalling and completion will now proceed.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

Messrs. DRUMMOND, WHITE-COOPER & PHILLIPS.

Easements.

The Shanghai Club Portico.—Drawings of a proposed porchway to extend over the footpath opposite the Club premises on the Bund are submitted and, as a special case, this easement is granted for a nominal annual rental of Tl. 1, with the usual reservation as to removal upon due notice.

Reinforced Concrete Experiments.

With respect to an application by the Shanghai Society of Engineers and Architects for financial assistance in carrying out experimental work in reinforced concrete, it is decided to insert provision in the Budget for a sum of Tls. 1,000, as a grant-in-aid for this purpose :—

Shanghai, January 28, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—As you are aware a representative Committee has been appointed by the Council of the Shanghai Society of Engineers and Architects, to inquire into the use of reinforced concrete, with a view to a more accurate knowledge of its preparation, strength, properties, and use in engineering and building work being arrived at, with special reference to local conditions.

It is proposed to collect precise information of the principal systems of reinforced concrete construction now in use, and to carry out exhaustive experiments in regard to the strength and suitability of the available materials.

The funds at the disposal of the Society are very limited and at a meeting of the Committee held yesterday, it was resolved to ask you to approach the Council with the object of obtaining some financial assistance, and the use of any testing plant the Council may possess, to assist the Committee in the conduct of experiments.

I venture to suggest that the Council be asked to grant the sum of Taels One thousand, which amount together with other available funds should be sufficient to enable the Committee to carry out their investigations in a thorough and exhaustive manner.

Yours faithfully,
A. H. COLLINSON, M. INST., C.E.
Chairman,
Committee on Reinforced Concrete,
Shanghai Society of Engineers and Architects.

C. H. GODFREY, Esq.,
Engineer and Surveyor,
Municipal Council.

Council Room,
Shanghai, February 11, 1911.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 28, addressed to the Municipal Engineer, and in reply to state that the Council has decided, in accordance with your request, to insert provision in the forthcoming Budget of a sum of Tls. 1,000 as a grant-in-aid towards carrying out the proposed experiments in reinforced concrete.

It is understood that ten copies of the resultant report will be forwarded to the Council, and that copies will be obtainable by the public for the price at which the Society's Proceedings are usually sold.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

A. H. COLLINSON, Esq.,
for the Shanghai Society of Engineers and Architects.

Woodpaving.

From a Report by the Engineer it is learnt that an error was made in the estimates for paving the tramway crossings at the Hart and Bubbling Well Roads and at the Peking and Chekiang Roads, involving an excess over the Budget appropriation of about Tls. 2,900.

Canton Road Gas Main.

A letter from the Shanghai Gas Co., Ld. refers to previous negotiations on this subject, and enquires if it has yet been decided whether to remove the tramway track from the Canton Road or to lay a new gas main on the north side of that road. It is therefore decided to inquire definitely from the Tramway Company which alternative is considered preferable.

Tramways.

Power Rate.—The following letters are authorized for publication :—

Shanghai, June 6, 1910.

SIR,—In connexion with recommendations I have in view for considerably increasing the car mileage, Mr. Aldridge has informed me that the rates would naturally be extended by proportionate graduations in a descending scale to a point where the maximum output of the existing plant would be reached. It is noted that the more widely graduated version of the existing scale as stated on page 32 of The Municipal Gazette No. 112 is carried to 250,000 units per month while the closely graduated scale on page 37 of the same Gazette terminates at 200,000 apparently for the sake of brevity. Mr. Aldridge has indicated a limit in excess of the former figure, and, as arranged with him, I write this letter to suggest that the full extent of the graduations in accordance with the capacity of the traction plant installed may be communicated to the Company in writing as so much depends upon this in reckoning upon increased car mileage.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. McCOLL,
General Manager,
Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ld.

J. B. A. MACKINNON, Esq.,
Acting Secretary, Municipal Council.

Council Room,
Shanghai, January 21, 1911.

SIR,—I am directed to refer to your letter of June 6, 1910, and to the negotiations which have taken place since that date, in connexion with the proposed extension of the scale of charges for electricity up to the maximum capacity of the existing traction plant.

This matter has received the careful attention of the Council, and I am directed to state that the present is considered a suitable occasion for application to the supply of electricity for traction purposes, of the system of payment in force for other large power users, i.e., a fixed rate per kilowatt of plant capacity, based upon an estimated net profit of 3 per cent per annum upon the capital invested, and fixed charges, with a flat rate per unit for the electricity supplied, calculated upon the running costs of producing the current actually consumed.

In short, it is proposed that the Company shall pay, irrespective of the amount of electricity consumed, a monthly flat rate of Tls. 5,333 per mensem per kilowatt installed, or a sum of Tls. 4,799 per mensem on the 900 kilowatts of the existing traction plant, with a flat rate added of Tls. 0.015 per mensem for each Board of Trade unit of electricity consumed.

It is understood that you are prepared on behalf of the Company to agree to the adoption of this system in substitution for the sliding scale under which you have been charged during the past year, and that the application thereof in the manner suggested shall be in modification of the rate of payment per unit called for under Clause 9 of the Supply of Power Agreement, the Council reserving nevertheless the right as heretofore to revert to the strict terms of the aforesaid Clause upon giving adequate notice of intention to do so.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. E. LEVESON,
Secretary.

D. McCOLL, Esq.,
General Manager,
Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ld.

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Shanghai, February 10, 1911.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 21, and to state that the Local Board is pleased to note the arrangement therein proposed which is accepted, without prejudice, and which it is noted has been applied to the consumption of 208,641 units for January 1911, making the charge per unit for that month 3.80 tael cents.

Whilst appreciating this natural extension of the scale of charges for traction current, the Local Board notes the following facts which I am desired to mention in case they may have escaped the attention of the Council:—

(I) The current for the Tramways is metered at the Power Station (transmission losses being therefore borne by the Company) and conveyed thence by cables provided and maintained at the expense of the Company.

(II) The current for small consumers of electricity for heating, cooking, motors, etc., is metered at the consumers' premises (transmission losses being therefore borne by the Council) and conveyed thence by cables provided and maintained at the expense of the Council.

(III) Numerous small consumers obviously entail more expense in reading meters, making up and collecting accounts than one large consumer.

(IV) Notwithstanding conditions II and III, small consumers for heating and cooking are now being supplied with current at the reduced uniform rate of 3.50 tael cents per unit.

(V) Taking II and III into account, consumers of current for motors, etc., appear also to be supplied (under the scale introduced July 1, 1910) at more favourable rates than the Tramways, even on the extended scale now granted to the Company.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. McCOLL,
General Manager.
Shanghai Electric Construction Co., Ld.

W. E. LEVESON, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Public School for Chinese.

The minutes of the meeting of the School Committee of January 26, are read and confirmed. There were present:

Rev. A. J. Walker (*Chairman*)
Messrs. J. C. Ferguson
H. A. J. Macray
Shen Tun-ho
The Engineer
The Treasurer
The Headmaster
The Secretary and Assistant Secretary

Ellis Kadoorie School Building.—A sketch plan of the proposed building is submitted, and the Engineer replies to the various enquiries of the members thereon. It appears that the building as designed is as a whole satisfactory, but it is noted that the cost is estimated at about Tls. 85,000. Mr. Ellis Kadoorie has subscribed Tls. 25,000 only, for this purpose, and, although he has promised to collect more if required, it is recalled that he has expressed the opinion that such complete arrangements as quarters for the staff, for which the design provides, are at the outset unnecessary. The estimated cost of these quarters is Tls. 15,000. It is accordingly recommended that Mr. Kadoorie be informed of the position, and that a further expression of his views be sought.

[*In respect to this minute, the Council is unanimously of opinion that Tls. 85,000 is too large a sum to expend on the building, particularly in the knowledge that the German School in the Weihaiwei Road cost no more than Tls. 30,000. The Engineer will therefore be directed to re-model his proposals, and to design a school which shall cost not more than Tls. 50,000, and which shall be capable of being built in instalments and thus added to from time to time.*]

Study of Scripture.—Reference is made to an application by one of the pupils for permission to take Scripture as a subject of examination in the Cambridge Locals, and it is directed that he be informed that as this subject is not in the Syllabus he can be given no tuition therein by the staff, but that, with this proviso, there is no objection to his taking it as a subject of examination.

Other minutes of this meeting relate to matters in connexion with the salaries of the Staff, Foreign and Native, and to the Estimates of Expenditure for the forthcoming year.

Tenders.

Of the tenders received in response to Notification No. 2067 for the supply of tools, that of the Eastern Trading Co., Ld. for tools manufactured by the Hardy Patent Pick Co. for the sum of £116, was selected for acceptance provided that, upon test, the quality proved satisfactory. The tenderers are, however, unable at the present time, to provide samples for testing purposes, and it is decided, therefore, in order to avoid a shortage, to obtain half the estimated requirements, as heretofore, by indent upon the London Agents, decision as to the remaining half quantity being deferred pending test of the samples which it is understood will be submitted at an early date.

The remaining tenders are as follows:—

Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	£ 90.15.0
Collins & Co.	110. 0.0
P. Heath & Co.	114. 0.0
Siemssen & Co.	116.13.6
Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ld.	120.10.0
Dunning & Co. Ld.	126.13.0
Shanghai Machine Co.	126.18.6
Arnhold, Karberg & Co.	132. 0.0
Middleton & Co.	132. 5.0
Scott, Harding & Co.	133. 9.6
Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ld.	134. 0.0
Collins & Co.	137. 0.0
Westphal, King & Ramsay, Ld.	138.10.0
Eastern Trading Co. Ld.	146.10.0
Ilbert & Co.	151. 0.0
Seebohm & Dieckstahl, Ld.	£151. 0.0
Jardine, Matheson & Co. Ld.	152. 0.0
Middleton & Co.	171. 5.0
John Giles	179.15.0
Middleton & Co.	182.11.0
John Giles	225. 0.0
Andersen, Meyer & Co.	Tls. 875.
Alex. Ross & Co.	,, 1,110.

and one incomplete tender.

The tender of the New Building and Construction Co. Ld. is accepted for reinstatement of the wall on Cadastral Lot 1298, Bubbling Well Road, at the rate of Tls. 13.50 per chang, or a sum of approximately Tls. 432.

The other tenderers are:—

Zee Zung Tai	Tls. 14
Joe Ming Kee	,, 16

The meeting adjourns at 7 p.m.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

The following have been reported during the week ending Sunday, Feb. 12, 1911.	Cases notified among Non-Chinese population of 13,770	Deaths among Chinese population of 492,000
Small-pox.	2	8
Cholera.	0	0
Typhoid Fever	1	—
Diphtheria.	1	1
Scarlet Fever.	0	0
Tuberculosis	0	10
Plague	0	0
Total Deaths from all Causes	2	136

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

New Buildings.

Plans approved February 8, 1911.

Cad. lot.	Road.	Name.	Description.
5547	Yangtszepoo	Scott, Christie & Johnston	Addition to Godown
5610	Sinza	Atkinson & Dallas Ld.	4 native houses.
5611	Yulin	Chinese	2 native houses.

Public Band.

Public Performances.—The attendance on Sunday, February 12, numbered 688.

On Sunday next, February 19, at 4.30 p.m., the programme will be as follows:—

1. Hymn & March from "Aida" Verdi
2. Overture "William Tell" Rossini
3. Selection "Adrienne Lecouvreur" Cilea
4. Overture "In the South" Elgar
5. Symphonic Poem "Tasso" Liszt
6. Two Slavonic Dances (Nos. 3 & 1) Dvorak

Conductor, Professor BUCK.

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Proceedings at the Mixed Court

During the week ending Saturday, February 11, 1911:—

APPREHENSIONS.	Male	Female
Assault	18	2
Breach of Municipal Regulations	27	
Traffic	583	
Nuisance	315	
Burglary	5	
Children in brothels		1
Civil Offences	5	1
Cruelty to Animals	3	
Extortion	1	
False Pretences...	3	2
Fighting and creating a disturbance	65	8
Fraud	4	
Furious driving	9	
Gambling	30	
Housebreaking	9	
Insanity...		2
Illegal Detention	1	1
Kidnapping	3	1
Larceny	127	3
Loitering	13	
Abetting prostitution		1
Soliciting prostitution ...		14
Receiving stolen property ...	5	1
Returning from expulsion ...	4	1
Attempted suicide	1	2
Unlawful possession	9	
Vagrancy	14	6
Trespass	3	
Trafficking in females... ...	1	
Wilful damage	1	
Miscellaneous cases	12	4
TOTAL...	1,271	50

PUNISHMENTS AND DECISIONS.	Male	Female
Imprisonment	148	24
Imprisonment and expulsion...	28	1
Expulsion	1	
Fined	54	
Bail Forfeited	981	9
Reformatory	2	
Cautioned	1	2
Dismissed	25	2
Released on Security	6	1
Left to Court	1	
Handed to Parents	3	2
Sent to Sinza Refuge	16	8
Sent to Door of Hope		1
Sent to Native Authorities ...	3	
Sent to Hupeh Guild	1	
Detained in Court	1	
TOTAL...	1,271	50

HOUSE OF DETENTION FOR MALES.

Inmates at the beginning of week ...	88
Received during the week	4
Released during the week	3
Remaining at the end of week... ...	89

FEMALE WARD.

Inmates at beginning of week ...	107
Received during the week	28
Released during the week	20
Remaining at the end of week... ...	115

SUMMONSES AND WARRANTS.

Summonses issued	54
Warrants issued	23
Summonses served	16
Warrants executed	7

C. D. BRUCE,
Captain-Superintendent of Police.

Engineer's Report for January.

The centering and falsework of the Dixwell Road Bridge over the Sawginkiang is now being removed and the making up of the north approach is in hand.

The piers and abutments of the Seward Road Bridge are practically completed on the southern half of the bridge, and the steel girders, etc, for this portion will be placed in position early in February.

Additional stands for ricshas are being constructed between the trees on the east side of the Bund between Canton Road and Nanking Road.

The temporary footbridge across the Soochow Creek east of the Stone Bridge, constructed for the Pao An Dong Benevolent Institution is now practically completed, and will shortly be opened to traffic. Very great difficulty was experienced in getting the work properly done and a good deal of the work had to be condemned from time to time.

Works in progress—New Plant House, Reserve Garden. New Laundry Block at the Gaol. Painting Chinese Isolation Hospital. Widening roads around Cathedral Compound. Reconstruction of Seward Road Bridge. New reinforced concrete bridge, Dixwell Road over the Sawginkiang. Laboratory for testing cement and other materials at Concreteware Yard. Urinal Concreteware Yard.

Making up Dixwell Road between East Yalu Road and East Yuhang Road. Temporary footbridge across the Soochow Creek east of Stone Bridge. Filling in side ditch in Bubbling Well Road west of Hart Road. Filling in creek in Weihaiwei Road east of Yates Road. Dredging Soochow Creek. Raising Dalny Road south of Yangtszepoo Road. Repairs to Stone Bunding, Baikal Road.

Works finally completed.—New Kitchen, etc., at Louza Police Station.

Plans completed.—Reinforced concrete bridge over the Defence Creek at Sinza Road. Temporary footbridge over the Soochow Creek. Sketch plan Ellis Kadoorie School.

Public Lighting.—Forty-five 60 candle-power metallic filament lamps have been erected as follows:—

Siccawei Road	9
Connaught Road	5
Sinza Road	20
Markham Road	8
Hart Road	3

Thirty-six gas lamps have been removed as follows:—

Connaught Road	5
Sinza Road	22
Markham Road	6
Hart Road	3

Cleansing.—The following was collected during the month:—

186	cartloads	garbage
549	,,	ashes
3,576	,,	road detritus
2,333	,,	Gully deposit.

Quarry.—4,388 tons of road materials were received from the Quarry during the month. No materials were delivered for the account of the French Council during December.

Concreteware.—The following concreteware has been made at the Range Road Depôt during the month:—

Hand-made	402 pieces.
Machine made	Nil (owing to frost and repairs to machinery.)

New Buildings.—Summary of work done during the month:—

Description of Work	*Total*
Buildings under construction	99
Plans submitted for approval	25
Plans approved	24
Inspections by Inspectors	674
Permits for Boundary Walls	2
,, Carpenters' Sheds	0
,, Repairs to Buildings	28
,, New Shop Fronts	14
,, Painting	205
,, Alterations	21
,, Erecting Fences	14
,, Erecting Signboards	193
,, Erecting Drying Stages	0
,, Temporary mat sunshades	17
,, Temporary cloth sunshades	0
Dangerous Buildings Notices issued	13
Summonses	1
Encroachments reported and rectified	0

Dangerous Structures.

Notices of dangerous structures received from the public	1
Dangerous structures reported by P.W.D.	6
Notices from other Departments	4
First Intimation Notices issued	11
Second ,,	2

In consequence of the usual dangerous buildings notices being ignored in the case of some native houses in Yangtszepoo Road, an ejectment order was applied for and the tenants were ejected from the houses. A summons has been served on the defaulter.

Two gate-houses were erected in the Haining Road without a permit. As they interfered with the airspace and the owner refused to remove them they were taken down by this Department.

A bamboo structure erected in the Eastern District without a permit, and contrary to the Municipal Regulations, was removed by the Police at the request of the Public Works Department.

Survey Work

Official measurements of new land lots attended	40
Cadastral certificates issued	44
Consular lots surveyed	12
Surveys made in connexion with road widenings and/or extensions	44
Lots examined to ascertain whether they included roads or waterways which are or may be in future of use to the public	31

M. C. R. stones erected:—

Eastern District	4
Western District	11

Labour.—The average number of labourers employed during the month, exclusive of contract work, has been 1,769 as compared with 1,608 during January, 1910.

CHAS. H. GODFREY,
Engineer & Surveyor.

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